



Gov. McCrory Appoints Nick Tennyson Secretary of Transportation



In early August, Governor Pat McCrory announced the appointment of Nick Tennyson as the new Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Tennyson previously served as Chief Deputy Secretary since March 2013 and succeeds Tony Tata.

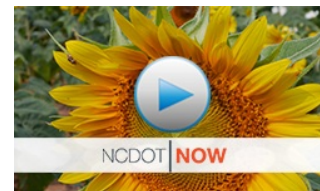
Nick Tennyson is sworn in as Secretary of Transportation.

"Nick Tennyson is the perfect choice to continue the momentum we have made in North Carolina's transportation strategy," said Governor McCrory. "He has been involved in planning all of our key transportation strategies over the last two and half years, and is equipped to hit the ground running to continue our progress."

Secretary Tennyson and the NCDOT team will continue to focus on expanding and safely maintaining our transportation network through the Governor's 25 Year Vision, support new funding strategies including the bonds to Connect NC, strengthen our ports to make our state more globally competitive and deliver other infrastructure projects to help grow the state's economy and create jobs. [Learn More](#)

NCDOT Crews Continue Progress on I-40/77 Interchange Improvement Project in Statesville

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On this week's NCDOT Now, NCDOT partners with the N.C. Department of Agriculture on creating pollinator habitats in wildflower beds, tickets available now for special train stops at the North Carolina State Fair and the Lexington Barbecue Festival in October and ferry crews help rescue a father and son in Swan Quarter Bay. For previous episodes of NCDOT Now and other transportation-related videos, visit NCDOT's



The interchange improvement project at I-77 and I-40 in Statesville is designed to accommodate current and future traffic demands.

This summer has been a busy one for crews working on the Interstate 40/77 interchange improvement project in Statesville, and motorists will notice the work in a series of recent traffic pattern changes.

In late August, NCDOT opened to traffic a new bridge and connector road. The bridge connects U.S. 21 and Gaither Road and, as a result, permanently eliminates the existing two-way ramp at U.S. 21/I-40.

This interchange is the connection point between two widely traveled highways, I-77 and I-40, and the project will upgrade the existing road network to accommodate current and future traffic demands at this critical juncture.

The \$89 million project is scheduled for completion in 2017.
[Read more.](#)

Division 12 Board Member: Lou Wetmore

Louis S. Wetmore of Hickory joined the N.C. Board of Transportation in June 2013.

Originally from Memphis, Tenn., Wetmore has called the foothills of North Carolina home for nearly 50 years.



"It is an honor to represent Division 12 and its hardworking employees," Wetmore said. "As a longtime resident of North Carolina's foothills, I consider it a privilege to be involved in the transportation decisions that will help this region



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continue to grow and thrive."

Wetmore founded Triad Packaging Inc., a manufacturer of corrugated shipping containers in Hickory, in 1976. Lou served as CEO and president until selling the company in 2008. Under his leadership, Triad expanded, adding two manufacturing locations in North Carolina, in Conover and Butner, and one in Dalton, Ga.

Wetmore joined OmniStar Financial Group in 2009 and currently represents them as a wealth advisor. He has a background in business and has been active with the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce, as well as other organizations.

Wetmore holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in management and a Master of Business Administration degree in management and finance from the University of Memphis. He also is a certified court mediator, mediating Superior Court, District Court, Workers Compensation and Estate and Guardianship issues.

He is married with two children and two step-children.

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